



Columbus High School BEST Robotics

August 20, 2013

Dear Parents,

Your son or daughter has shown an interest in the competitive robotics team at our school. BEST Robotics is a significant investment in time and offers significant rewards. Team members who take ownership of the process will have real science and engineering experience. This experience adds confidence for future endeavors, and most scholarship committees and college admissions officers recognize the significance of the experience.

Student team members will be expected to come to at least 10 hours of work time during each week of the 6 week competition season to be on the team roster. There is a dedicated room for robotics at Jordan High School and the schedule for teams to work is below:

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
4-6 pm	4-6 pm	4-6 pm	4-6 pm	10 am - 4 pm	10 am - 4 pm

Background

- BEST stands for Boosting Engineering Science and Technology.
- Students must design, build, and program a robot to compete against other schools all in 6 weeks time following engineering best practices.
- Outreach is a significant part of the competition as the students share the lessons of BEST with the community

Parents have several opportunities to volunteer to support this volunteer co-curricular organization, and are encouraged to participate. Below is a list of needs for the team:

Transportation for the following:

- Kickoff – September 5th. Leave - 4:30pm, drive to Auburn, Return - 8:30pm.
- Mall Day Practice and Exposition – October 6th, Leave 11am to Auburn, Return by 6pm.
- War Eagle BEST Competition – October 19th. Morning to Afternoon, Auburn.

Practice Field Building – Wood Working Skill / Tools

Engineering Reviews – Students need feedback on their ideas.

BEST Award – The students will be hosting several outreach events and will need advice and help to implement the programs.

Important Dates:

- August 20th – Columbus City Division Team Meeting
- September 5th – 2013 Game kickoff at Auburn University. The rules for the game will be revealed and the build season officially begins.
- October 6th – Mall Day in Auburn. This is a public event where teams can bring their robots to practice.
- October 19th – War Eagle BEST Competition. Over 25 teams will compete for 2 invitations to attend the national event which is held on campus at Auburn University.

Costs

The materials used during the competition have been mostly paid with grant funds. However, the students may need to pay for a team T-shirt and other team related costs. Overall student cost would be low, and details will be sent out by October 1st.

Please sign the permission form to acknowledge that you understand the commitment being made by your son/daughter. Also, it would be greatly appreciated if you could help in any of the areas described. Indicate on the permission form if you would be willing to help in those areas. An invitation will be sent to all parents to join the booster club for robotics by email.

Thank you for your support.